

**Punta Gorda**  
Is the county seat of  
Charlotte county. Popu-  
lation of town, 1920 cen-  
sus, 1,295. Increase for  
10 years 23 percent.

# The Punta Gorda Herald

**The Herald**  
Is the oldest newspaper  
published on the lower  
southwest coast and the  
only one in Charlotte  
county.

Punta Gorda, in Tropical Southwest Florida, is Advantageously Located on Charlotte Harbor, One of the Largest Land-Locked Bays on the Gulf of Mexico, and is a Town with a Bright Future, Commercially and Agriculturally

Volume XXXIV.—Number 40

PUNTA GORDA, CHARLOTTE COUNTY, FLORIDA, OCT. 13th, 1922

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## FOUR TOWNS IN RACE FOR HIGHLANDS COUNTY SEAT

Sebring, Avon Park, Lake Stearns  
and DeSoto City Want to be  
Permanent Capital

According to dispatches from that place, Sebring, the temporary county seat of Highlands county, created by act of the last legislature, is not going to give up the capitalship of the new county without a fight. This is indicated by the announcement of her candidacy incident to the action of the board of county commissioners in calling an election to be held on November twenty-first next, for the purpose of deciding the proper point to build the permanent county buildings, such as the jail, court house, etc.

A number of towns in Highland county will also be in the fight, and an interesting contest is anticipated in connection with the campaign to focus attention on the various strong points in favor or against the several contenders.

Following are the other towns considered avowed candidates for the location of the county seat: Avon Park, Lake Stearns and DeSoto City. Sebring will keep the county seat if it can do so without resort to dishonorable or questionable methods. That was decided on at a mass meeting held in the court room Friday night. The meeting was the result of several informal conferences between the prominent men of the city. A. E. Lawrence, president of the board of trade, called the meeting together, and at his suggestion, George E. Sebring was unanimously elected chairman. Ira Rigdon was elected secretary.

Mr. Sebring, after appropriate introductory remarks, asked the assembled citizens if they wished the county seat to remain in Sebring. They did. A motion to that effect was promptly passed without a dissenting vote. The motion stated specifically that the sense of the meeting be for Sebring to use every honorable method to retain the county seat.

The meeting was characterized by a spirit of unity and fellowship upon the part of those in attendance. There was not a single disparaging statement made regarding the other participants in the contest. The word fight was not used at all.

The meeting was not for the purpose of advancing Sebring's claims in the contest for the county seat. These claims will be made known by the organization. But there was a general feeling that Sebring in asking for the retention of the county seat, was not acting from a purely selfish standpoint. This feeling was expressed by one prominent man who stated that the best interests of the county would be served with the location of the county seat at the center of population. Sebring is that center. An executive committee of three, to be appointed by the chairman was decided upon at the meeting, while every citizen taking a part in the meeting was signed up on a campaign committee.

The county seat election will take place some time in the early part of 1923, probably in February. Contestants other than Sebring are Avon Park, Lake Stearns, and DeSoto City.

### Improving Streets

A number of the town's streets have been considerably improved during the past week by scooping out trenches and filling them with shell, thus making a ribbon road, and other streets have been improved by filling up the deep holes and ruts worn during the extremely heavy rains. The plan of making ribbon roads does not solve the street problem, but was adopted and is regarded as a temporary improvement within the means of the town which will make the streets passable and less rough. While not all that could be desired, the improvement is considerable and will make the streets better than ever before.

Winter Haven people are commencing to think as a unit on the question of home ownership. Those who own their own homes are taking more interest in them and beautifying buildings and lawns. Those who are renting are figuring on how they can acquire a home of their own. It's a good sign.

Clearwater and Dunedin may consolidate and build Bay Shore Boulevard from Bellevue to the northern limits of the City of Oaks. Prominent Dunedin people favor joining Clearwater in building the proposed Bay Shore Boulevard, which would add much to the Golden Sunset City.

**Toll of War on Young Men**  
During the world war the percentage of losses in the French army by age show that the twenty-year-old soldiers, both officers and men, suffered most, an average of 29.2 per cent.

Boy Scouts and scout officials in the United States number 559,599.

## COMMISSIONERS DECIDE TO PURCHASE CEMENT GUN

Independent Candidates File Petitions Asking to Have Name Put on Ballot

The county commissioners met in adjourned session last Saturday, all the members except Commissioner Gotfried, being present.

After discussion of the public road situation, a motion was adopted to appoint Commissioner Whitten and Clerk Blount a committee to write and secure from the state road commission the necessary data to enable the board to proceed in an intelligent manner to take legal steps preliminary to calling an election to decide on the question of issuing bonds to repair and complete State Road No. 5 passing through this county.

A petition of voters asking that the name of George W. Cleek be placed on the ballot for the November election as an independent candidate for county judge, was presented and read; and, being found in compliance with law, was granted.

A similar petition asking that the name of C. C. Carleton be placed on the November ballot as an independent candidate for representative in the legislature, was filed, but not presented or read. It will be acted on at a meeting of the board to be held tomorrow (Saturday).

Tax Assessor Hazan was allowed \$200.00 on account of his commission as assessor.

The family of W. H. Russell was placed on the pauper list at \$15.00 a month.

The purchase of a cement gun for making repairs on the Charlotte Harbor bridge, was carefully considered. Bids from a Polk county phosphate company and from manufacturers in Allentown, Pennsylvania, were compared, and it was decided that economy would be conserved by accepting the latter. The chairman and the clerk were thereupon authorized to sign the contract with the manufacturers, which calls for the payment in a year of \$4,114.70 for the gun, no interest being charged.

After selecting and appointing managers for the election to be held November 7th, the board adjourned to meet at 10 o'clock tomorrow morning.

**Interested in Two Highways**  
While pushing work on the Tamiami trail steadily, Lee county is concentrating its efforts on completing the Gulf-to-Atlantic highway from Fort Myers to Palm Beach.

## MCCRARY CO. ENGAGED TO MAKE TWO FIELD SURVEYS

Will Advise City as to Light Plant Matter and Contemplated Street Improvements

At a special meeting of the City Commission Friday night of last week, E. V. Young, representing the J. B. McCrary Engineering Company, of Atlanta, was present and the McCrary company was engaged by the city to make a "field survey" and make recommendations to the city as to the best course to pursue to provide the city with electric lights, power and water in the future, and also to advise as to the best plan upon which to proceed in the improvement of streets.

The first task involves making a complete study of the local situation as related to the light, power and water problem and making a report and recommendation as to the best course to pursue as indicated by the facts disclosed by the investigation. If the expert sent by the McCrary company finds from such an investigation that it would not be advisable for the city to attempt to operate its own utilities, he is expected to so advise the commission; if he finds that conditions are such as to make the operation of publicly owned utilities a safe venture, he is expected to make a report to this effect. The McCrary company was employed for the purpose of "digging up" the real facts, whatever they may be, for the benefit of the public.

The work in connection with the contemplated street improvements involves the taking of levels for curbs

(Continued on last page)

## He Is Ushering War Back Into Europe.



The most recent picture of Mustapha Kemal Pasha, leader of Turkish troops who defeated the Greeks and dragged England into a new war in defense of Constantinople and the Dardanelles. Kemal Pasha has proved himself to be a military genius.

## FALL TERM CIRCUIT COURT CONVENES HERE MONDAY

Criminal Docket is Very Small One, There Being But One New Case to be Tried

The fall term of the circuit court for Charlotte county will convene Monday, but the prospect is for a very short session, there being but three criminal cases on the docket and not more than a dozen civil cases that might be tried. The civil docket had not been made up yesterday, but the clerk informed the reporter that there were perhaps a dozen cases that might be tried but that it was not likely that they would all come up.

The three criminal cases as they appear on the docket are "State vs. S. N. Cornwall, for selling stock in corporation, not having certificate of attorney general or comptroller"; "State vs. O. A. Morgan, for obtaining money under false pretense"; "State vs. John Brown, appeal."

The Cornwall case was continued from the last term of circuit court; the Morgan case is a new one and grew out of a transaction in real estate by Morgan; the Brown case is an appeal by Brown from the decision of the county judge, who found Brown guilty of violation of the prohibition laws.

Unless a larger number of the civil cases than is expected come up for trial, it is likely that the session will not require more than a week at the most. Judge Whitehurst will preside.

### Deferred Marriage Announcement

Mr. and Mrs. Arch E. McCrea of Jacksonville, arrived here Sunday and are spending the week as guests of the latter's mother, Mrs. E. A. White. Until they came, none of the many local friends of Mrs. McCrea knew of her marriage, which, for reasons of their own, the couple kept secret until their arrival here. The wedding occurred in Saint Johns Episcopal church, Jacksonville, on June 25th, 1922, the ceremony being performed by Rev. VanWinder Shields, rector of that church. Only a few special friends were present. The bride is the only daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Ellison A. White and has been known and loved as Miss Thelma Jean White by virtually every one in this community. She was born and reared here, and the local interest in her happiness is sincere and general. A host of friends fervently wishing her a long and joyous life. As is known, she holds a responsible and lucrative position in the Atlantic Coast Line offices in Jacksonville. Mr. McCrea came to Florida from Dawson, Georgia, and is a valued employee of the Goodyear Rubber Company, with headquarters in Jacksonville. He is to be congratulated on having won the heart and hand of one of Florida's sweetest daughters. He and his bride will return to the metropolis in a few days, when they will be at home to their numerous friends at 117 Main street on and after November 1st prox.

### To Manufacture Oils in Lake Co.

The Essential Oil Company of America is clearing lands in Lake county and is building a plant for the manufacture of essential oils used in perfumes, pomades and other toilet articles. The land is to be subdivided into acre units and will be sold on the condition that the major portion of each tract is used in cultivating lavender, roses, geraniums and other oil-producing plants which will be purchased by the company. The company owns 125 acres within the town of Tavares.

A French medical scientist has made the statement that headaches and toothache go together.

Pink pearls are scarce and found only off the Bahama Islands.

## CITRUS INDUSTRY COMING BACK TO WEST FLORIDA

Interest in Industry West of Apalachicola River Revived. Satsumas Being Planted

Old timers often tell about the citrus groves that used to exist in Central, North and West Florida. The famous freezes of the last quarter century brought an end to many groves that really did exist in those parts of the state.

But the citrus industry is swinging back into West Florida. A. P. Spencer, vice-director of the Agricultural Extension Division, Florida College of Agriculture, recently spent several days in the counties west of the Apalachicola river. Under his return to Gainesville, Professor Spencer gave out the following interview:

"There is a decided interest in fruit growing thruout West Florida. During a recent visit with county agents in that part of the state, I looked over some excellent prospects in Jackson, Bay, Washington, Walton, Santa Rosa and Escambia counties for the development of the satsuma orange.

"It is certain that practically every available satsuma tree that Florida nurseries can supply within the next few months will be set out in this territory.

"An organization meeting is called for Marianna, October 18th, for the purpose of discussing ways and means of further promoting the satsuma industry. The program committee has selected a few important subjects to be discussed. Afterward they will make a tour of some plantings and satsuma lands in order to arouse further interest.

"Other fruits are being planted in these counties, principally peaches, plums, persimmons, blueberries and pecans.

"County agents are helping to solve the marketing problems of the farmers. Co-operative sales, particularly of hogs, are being held, and will continue to be held for just about all farm products."

### Big Day at Carlstrom Field

A considerable number of our business men attended the government auction sale at Carlstrom Field, Wednesday, but bought very little of the stuff offered. One of them said that those goods which were in financial reach of a man of moderate means sold for more than they could be bought at retail in local stores, while those that were sold in big lots did not bring as much as one-fourth their value. He said further that many of the articles sold at ridiculously low prices were such as the government needs or will need at other places and will have to buy at more than double the prices for which they sold. There was a great variety of goods auctioned off, and the sale was attended by people from all over the country, from outside as well as Florida. One Arcadia merchant bought \$10,000.00 worth of the goods and paid cash for them. In fact, cash was required for all purchases.

### Band is Progressing

The Charlotte Military Band, under the management of Leader Smith and Director D'Arcy is steadily improving and larger and larger crowds go out to the park to hear the Sunday afternoon concerts. Lack of funds, according to Professor D'Arcy is the band's greatest hindrance and were the organization adequately financed still greater improvement would be possible. During the month of September the band received from public subscription the sum of \$57.00. Of this amount \$22.26 were paid out for music and instruction and there is a bank balance of \$24.74.

## American Legion in Asia

An American Legion post has been organized in Harpoot, Asia Minor, by fifteen ex-service men. The unit is called the Garden of Eden post.

Physicians in Spain are by no means well paid and they are expected to attend the poorer classes without any charge at all.

## FEDERAL AID APPORTIONED FOR FLORIDA ROAD WORK

Senator Fletcher Gets Authentic Information as to Amounts Paid and Due State

While all sections of Florida are interested in securing permanent roads through county and district bond issues and through the aid of the state road department of Florida and aid of federal government, very few have any definite information as to the amount of federal aid already apportioned to Florida and the amounts to be apportioned during the next two or three years.

In order to secure this information United States Senator Duncan U. Fletcher recently addressed a letter to the chief of the bureau of public roads, United States department of agriculture, and in reply, received the following communication, which gives the following information requested:

"Hon. Duncan U. Fletcher, United States senator.

"My dear Senator Fletcher: In answer to your request of September 25 for the total apportionments of federal aid for road building in Florida, the following is given:

"Act of July 11, 1916. \$ 855,933.55

"Act of Feb. 28, 1919. 2,295,978.93

"Act of Nov. 9, 1921. 886,825.69

"Act of June 11, 1922. 591,217.13

"Total apportionment \$4,628,155.30

"All of the above apportioned amounts have been appropriated with the exception of the \$591,217.13 for the fiscal year 1923. There is also an appropriation authorized for the fiscal year 1924 of approximately \$768,195 and for the fiscal year of 1925 of approximately \$886,826. No apportionment has yet been authorized for the fiscal years 1924 and 1925.

"Very truly yours,

(Signed) "Thos. H. MacDonald,

"Chief of Bureau."

In connection with the above it will be well to note the difference between the terms "amounts apportioned" and "amounts appropriated," as all moneys appropriated have not yet been apportioned.

### To Show 'Em How

St. Johns county is going to show the state road department how to do things in the way of road building by the construction of 1,500 feet of experimental road just north of St. Augustine and have it completed early in October.

## FIRST COST OF SHINE IS HIGH; LATER COST HIGHER

Children Find Booze Cache and Get Drunk; Young Men Pay \$75 for Damage to Wagon

Five boys and one girl, averaging between ten and twelve years of age each, were playing Sunday afternoon, on premises owned by Henry Sileox, when they found and dug up out of the ground a two-gallon jug and a one-gallon bottle of "shine." They put some of the stuff into small containers, one of which the girl smashed to prevent the boys from drinking it, but they did drink some of the rest and one of them got very drunk. Meantime, they hid the stuff amongst the palmettoes hard by. A. C. Caldwell, chief of police, found the drunken boy and took care of him until he got sober, when, upon questioning him, he told a straight story in which he named his companions. The chief, then, accompanied by Deputy Sheriff Leek Lewis, assembled the boys, who readily went with the officers and showed them the hidden "shine" and, also, showed the officers the spot where they found it. The stuff was seized and a warrant issued for Henry Sileox charging him with possession of intoxicating liquor. He was tried by a jury in county judge's court, Wednesday, and found not guilty. (Continued on last page)

The senate chamber is 113 feet long by 83 feet wide, and the representatives' hall is 129 feet long by 93 feet wide. The ceilings of both rooms are 36 feet high.

The heavier the firewood the more heat to the cord. One good cord of seasoned wood has a fuel value about equal to a ton of coal.

## SAYS LAWS ADEQUATE TO PROTECT SALT WATER FISH

Commissioner Hodges Claims Laws Regarding Salt Water Fishing Are Being Enforced

State Shell Fish Commissioner Hodges, discussing the salt water fishing industry at Tallahassee recently, said: "The press of the state has frequently mentioned editorially the value and importance of the fish and game of Florida and the laxity of the laws governing same but they failed to segregate the fresh from the salt water fish. There can be no doubt but what the laws for the protection of the fresh water fish are lax and are not enforced but the same cannot be said of those governing the salt water fishing industry.

"The laws for the protection of the salt water fish are adequate with perhaps one or two exceptions and are being enforced over a territory of approximately three thousand miles of coast. The shell fish department has no appropriation from the state government but relies exclusively on the taxes collected from those engaged in the industry to carry on the work. The department has more than paid expenses, accumulated considerable property, enforced the law and deposited money in the general revenue fund in the state treasury during the present administration.

"The fresh water fish and game are the greatest attractions Florida has to offer the many tourists who annually invade her sunny borders except her magnificent climate but they cannot be classed as an industry while the salt water fishing can be so classed for it is the direct means of supporting more people than any other industry in the state except farming and a great many farmers are salt water fishermen. In common parlance it means 'grub' while the other is sport."

If anyone doubts that the fishing laws are being enforced they should take a look into Commissioner Hodges' "private cellar" in Tallahassee where he stores the illegal nets and gear that are captured by his deputies and shipped here for safekeeping when those engaged in fishing flee to the woods and leave their illegal nets behind. When prisoners are taken, both prisoners and nets are turned over to the sheriff. You will find in this cellar anything from a mosquito net to a gigantic seine, three miles or more in length and capable of sweeping the entire waters of a river and denuding it of small fish and destroying the feeding grounds. Some of these seines are worth three or four thousand dollars apiece.

The court docket kept in the commissioner's office at the state capital shows many arrests and convictions for violations of the salt water fish laws but the commissioner has no jurisdiction over the fresh water fish of the state.

### Prizes for Best Lawns

At the last meeting of the Women's Civic Improvement Association, it was decided to offer a prize of five dollars cash for the best kept front yard in town, the prize to be awarded December 15th. It is hoped that public-spirited individual citizens will supplement this with an offer of additional prizes, for first, second and third best kept yards. The object of the association is to make this a beautiful town, to which nothing contributes more than lovely front yards. In deciding the winner, three points will be taken into consideration, viz: First, the greatest improvement made between the 15th of the present month (October) and December 15th, shall count forty points; second, the most novel idea in effecting this improvement shall count thirty points; third, the best execution shall count for thirty points. Those who wish to enter the contest should give their names to Mrs. J. H. Hancock, president of the association, and begin work at once. Mrs. Hancock will select and announce the names of the judges in due time.

### Jacksonville to Have New Pier

The city commission of Jacksonville approved plans for the construction of a new pier at the municipal docks and terminals, in Talleyrand avenue, prepared by Engineer George B. Hill. Bids on the pier will be opened by the commission Monday, October 23, it was decided yesterday. This pier will cost in the neighborhood of \$600,000 and will be built out of the \$2,000,000 bonds issue approved by the taxpayers for municipal improvements.

By expelling the air within their bodies, aquatic birds make themselves heavier than water when diving.